



Successful Community Living

Getting Along with your
College Area Neighbors



Dear SDSU Student,

As an institution, San Diego State University is committed to being a good neighbor to the College Area community, and we'd like to enlist your cooperation in this important effort. As a service to students living in neighborhoods near SDSU, we are providing this brochure that explains some of the state and local codes that affect residents of single-family homes and provides suggestions for maintaining positive neighbor relations. By showing respect for the community in which you live, your conduct will be a positive reflection of SDSU. We hope you will find this information valuable, that you will share it with your fellow tenants and guests, and that you will keep it handy for future reference. Thank you in advance for doing your part to help enhance the quality of life in the College Area.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature of Dr. James R. Kitchen in dark ink.

Dr. James R. Kitchen

Vice President for Student Affairs



Dear SDSU Student,

As you know, SDSU is surrounded by neighborhoods and a community where people live and work. As responsible members of the local community known as the College Area, we need your help to create a positive working relationship with our neighbors. We all desire and have a right to live and work in surroundings where mutual respect, civility, healthy life styles and social interactions can thrive in ways that contribute to—rather than detract from—our quality of life.

With that in mind, I encourage you to read the important material in this brochure which will inform you of how you can help contribute to harmonious relationships with your neighbors and the surrounding community. With our collective efforts, we can make this community the very best it can possibly be.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature of Chris Manigault in dark ink.

Chris Manigault

Associated Students President



Dear College Area Resident,

Being adjacent to a major university adds to the vibrancy of the College Area, but it can also present significant challenges. Families and retired, long-term homeowners may share common fences with houses occupied by groups of youthful, transient renters—sometimes resulting in a clash of lifestyles. Potential conflicts, however, can be avoided if everyone has an understanding of their legal and civic responsibilities as community residents and the resources that are available to resolve community issues. In addition to educating yourself on these matters by reading this brochure, communication and neighborly consideration are the keys to making the College Area a pleasant place to live for all.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature of Scott Moomjian in dark ink.

Scott Moomjian

College Area Community Council President



Noise

- If your music or crowd noise is clearly audible 50 feet from your property line between 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., you are in violation of the law. [San Diego Municipal Code Section 59.5.0502]
- If you are disturbing a neighbor at any time, the neighbor can effect a citizen's arrest for disturbing the peace. [California Penal Code Section 415]
- Instruct your guests to respect the peace of the neighborhood as they leave your party. Loud voices, slamming of car doors, screeching tires, etc. are annoying, especially late at night.
- Be sensitive to the volume of your voices and the language that you use. Shouting of obscenities may be offensive to your neighbors.

Parties

REGULATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

Alcohol

- It is illegal to have an open container with an alcoholic beverage on public property within areas of San Diego, including the College Area. [San Diego Municipal Code Section 56.54]
- It is illegal to furnish alcohol to anyone under the age of 21 or to someone who is obviously intoxicated. [California Business and Professional Code Sections 25658 and 25602]
- It is illegal to collect money for admission to parties where alcoholic beverages are provided. (California Business and Professional Code Sections 25604)
- It is illegal for a person under the age of 21 to possess alcoholic beverages in a public place. [California Business and Professional Code Section 25662]
- It is illegal for a person to be intoxicated while in a public place such that the person cannot exercise care for his/her own safety. [California Penal Code Section 6479f]
- Never drive after drinking or let your friends drive if they've been drinking.

Other Public Nuisances

- It is illegal to urinate or defecate in public. [San Diego Municipal Code Section 56.55]

Remedies and Resources

- For non-emergency calls, contact the San Diego Police Department - (619) 531-2000.
- If the source of the problem is a San Diego State University fraternity, sorority or residence hall, call the SDSU Police - (619) 594-1991.
- For recurring noise problems, contact San Diego Noise Abatement - (619) 236-5500. Both the offending parties and property owners are notified. For ongoing problems with parties at a private residence, you can utilize the College Area Party Plan by contacting the Mid-City Community Relations Office - (619) 531-2383. If five or more neighbors sign a CAPP request form identifying a particular residence as a continual nuisance, a police supervisor will investigate. If the nuisance is confirmed, the house will be placed on a CAPP list and a police officer will contact the residents to give them a written warning. The address will be flagged in the police dispatch system as a CAPP residence, and if any complaints are received the police will shut down the party and issue citations without further warnings. The police will also impound the source of the noise (band equipment, stereo speakers, etc.) and beer kegs if minors are drinking. The CAPP designation remains in effect for one year and can be extended indefinitely. When calling, tell the dispatcher that the house is CAPPED.



Trash, Recycling & Hazardous Waste

REGULATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

Refuse and Recycling Collection

- The City of San Diego collects refuse, recycling and yard waste from most San Diego residences for free.
- You must follow a few guidelines for using your collection containers:
 1. Residents **must use City-issued refuse containers.** The black containers are for household trash; the blue containers are for recyclables including all paper (even shredded paper), cardboard, bottles, plastic containers and cans. Curbside yard waste recycling is also available in the College Area. Residents with the curbside yard waste recycling service are asked to put yard waste into 32- or 45-gallon

trash containers, or a white nylon 65-gallon reusable bag. **Never use plastic bags.** For directions, call the Environmental Services Department at (858) 694-7000 or go to www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/newgreenery.shtml

2. During non-collection hours, store your containers on private property, out of public view.
3. All containers must be placed at the designated point of collection by 7:00 a.m. on your scheduled collection day. Set the container on the street or alley, wheels against the curb, and with the handle facing your home. The container should be three feet away from other obstructions so the collection truck can access your container.
4. **Trash containers may be put out after 6:00 p.m. the evening before collection, but must be taken in by 6:00 p.m. the day of collection. Failure to remove containers may result in fines ranging from \$100 to \$500.** (San Diego Municipal Code Section 66.010)
5. Automobile maintenance products, tires, computer monitors and televisions, and household hazardous waste **cannot** be disposed of in the trash, recycling bins or brought to the landfill.

Household Hazardous Waste

- Household hazardous waste is any hazardous waste generated incidental to owning or maintaining a residence, vehicle, or yard. Waste examples: paints, solvents, varnishes, acids, flammables, acrylics, resins, motor oil, and gasoline.
- **Household hazardous waste may never be thrown away in the trash;** it must be brought to the Household Hazardous Waste Transfer Facility located at the Miramar Landfill entrance on Convoy Street, just north of State Highway 52. The facility accepts household hazardous waste on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., except holidays. An appointment is required and can be scheduled by calling the Environmental Services Department at (858) 694-7000.

Appliances and Electronics Recycling

- Call Environmental Services at (858) 694-7000 for a list of companies that recycle appliances, as well as a list of state-approved recycling facilities for televisions, computers and other electronics.
- The Miramar Recycling Center serves as a drop-off center for many recyclable materials, including large or bulky items that can be recycled but cannot go in either the black trash bin or the blue recycling bin.

Litter

- **When you have parties, it is your responsibility to pick up all party-related litter on your property, your neighbors' yards, the curb and the street, including sweeping up broken glass. This should be done no later than 10:00 a.m. the day after the party.**

Storage

- No junk or debris may be stored or placed in yards, established setbacks, and landscape areas. Furniture (couches, etc.) cannot be stored on roofs.
- Furniture and large items must be hauled off to a landfill.

Remedies and Resources

- For questions about trash collection and a copy of the collection schedule, call the Environmental Services Department at (858) 694-7000 or visit their Web site at www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services
- For questions about storage, call Neighborhood Code Compliance Department – (619) 236-5500.
- To report litter violations and illegal dumping, call the Solid Waste Code Enforcement, Environment Services Department – (858) 492-5055.
- The Miramar Landfill is located at 5180 Convoy Street, San Diego, CA 92111. A small fee (cash or check only) is charged based on the type of vehicle hauling the waste, weight of the load, the type of waste, whether the waste was generated in the City of San Diego, and residency. San Diego residents should bring a picture ID and proof of residency. All loads must be properly covered. The landfill is open Monday – Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and Saturday – Sunday, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. For more information call Environmental Services Department – (858) 694-7000.
- The Miramar Recycling Center is located before the fee booth to the Miramar Landfill at: 5165 Convoy Street, San Diego, CA 92111, (858) 268-8971, with the same operating hours as the landfill.



Parking

- **Parking is not permitted on lawns, required front yard, street side yard, or established setback.** [San Diego Municipal Code Sections 142.0510 (e) & 142.0510 (f)]

Parking

REGULATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

- **It is illegal to park across sidewalks or block driveways.** [California Vehicle Code Sections 22500 (f) & 22500 (c)]
- **Vehicles parked in driveways cannot extend over the sidewalk.** [California Vehicle Code Sections 22500 (f)]
- It is illegal to park vehicles crosswise in a driveway. [San Diego Municipal Code Section 142.0510 (f) (1) & (2)]
- Garages are required to have enough free space for parking. [San Diego Municipal Code Section 142.0510 9(c)]
- No inoperable vehicles are permitted in public view. [San Diego Municipal Code Sections 86.23 (h), 81.09 (a) (1), & California Vehicle Code Section 22669 (d)]
- No vehicle, including boats and trailers, may be stored or parked in the same place for more than 72 hours on public streets. [SDMC 86.23 (g)]
- Some streets near San Diego State University are designated as **Residential Permit Parking District “B.”** Parking on the designated streets is limited to residents only during the hours of 8:00 a.m.- 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Each residence is entitled to four permits, one of which may be a visitor's permit (must be used in the same block as the applicant's residence). The permits are valid for one year, renewable in August.
- Special rules apply to parking recreational vehicles and equipment. [SDMC 142.0510 9(g)]
- Be courteous when parking curbside in front of residences, especially since street parking is limited in the College Area. When there is room for two vehicles, allow enough room in front or behind your vehicle for another vehicle to park. Whenever possible, park in front of your own residence rather than inconveniencing neighbors by taking up the spaces in front of their homes.

Remedies and Resources

- Call the San Diego Police Department non-emergency number at (619) 531-2000 to report parking infractions.
- **For information on the Residential Permit Parking District and to obtain permit applications call (619) 685-1473.**
- For information on parking related to recreational vehicles, boats, etc. call the Vehicle Abatement at (858) 495-7856.



Being a Good Neighbor

REGULATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

Speeding

- All members of the community should obey the posted speed limits. Remember that there are families with young children and pets in our neighborhoods.

Pets

- Dogs are required to be kept in a building or fenced yard or on a leash. [San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances Section 63.0102(b2)]

- Waste left by pets must be picked up. [San Diego Municipal Code Section 44.0304.1]
- Be sure pets have identification tags so if a pet is lost, neighbors can contact the owner.
- Take care of dogs so that their barking does not disturb your neighbors.

Fireworks and Firearms

- It is illegal to possess, discharge or sell fireworks within the City of San Diego. [San Diego Municipal Code Section 53.10 (c) or 55.7802]
- It is illegal to fire any firearm within the City of San Diego. [San Diego Municipal Code Section 53.10 (c)]

Upkeep of Your Property

- Keep the College Area beautiful and protect property values. Landscaping should be maintained and watered on a regular basis to conform to community standards. Trash, leaves, weeds, lawn cuttings and broken branches should be removed from the yard and recycled or put in the trash bin.
- Roofs are not an appropriate or safe place for parties or sunbathing.

Communications with Your Neighbors

- When you move in, introduce yourself to your neighbors (at least the neighbors within three homes on either side and across the street).
- Learn your neighbors' names. Say hello or wave to them when you see them. If a neighbor has a problem, see if you can help.
- When you are going to have a social gathering, notify the neighbors in the area, by going door-to-door and talking with them or leaving a note. Give them the name of a contact person and telephone number where the person can be reached during the event if they have problems or concerns.
- Report suspicious activity.
- Find out what is going on in the neighborhood by attending local community council meetings.

Remedies and Resources

- Call (619) 531-2000 to report discharge of fireworks. The fine is \$500 to \$1,000.
- Call the San Diego Police at (619) 531-2000 to report shooting of firearms. The fine is \$1,000.
- To report problems with pets, contact County of San Diego Animal Control at (858) 236-4250. Fines for failing to clean-up after pets or for having dogs off-leash range from \$250 to \$500.

Additional Resources

College Area Community Council

- The College Area Community Council is the City of San Diego's officially recognized planning group for the College Area. The 20-member Executive Board conducts public meetings, held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Faith Presbyterian Church, 5075 Campanile Drive at Montezuma Road. There is a public comment portion of each meeting where community members are invited to express concerns, ask questions, or comment on community issues. The mailing address is P.O. Box 15723, San Diego, CA 92175. A membership form can be downloaded from the CACC website: www.cacc-sd.org. Members receive a monthly newsletter and a meeting agenda.

Associated Students Good Neighbor Program

- The Associated Students of SDSU have established a Good Neighbor Program whose goals are to foster a positive and civil atmosphere around the SDSU campus and to heighten awareness among SDSU students of the relationship between personal conduct and the quality of life on campus and in the surrounding community. The program has established a Community Line where area residents can voice their concerns. Follow-up phone calls, correspondence and/or personal visits are offered by student peers in response to concerns. The Good Neighbor Program Community Line can be reached at (619) 594-SAFE (7233).

Mediation

- The San Diego Mediation Center, a division of the National Conflict Resolution Center, has a Community Mediation Program that provides low and no cost mediation service to assist in resolving neighbor disputes. Services are generally provided within 14 days of initiation and over 80 percent of the community mediations end with a voluntary agreement between the parties to the dispute that totally resolves the issues. Phone (619) 238-2400. Web Site: www.ncrconline.com

City of San Diego

- The College Area is in Council District Seven. Phone: (619) 236-6677. Ask for the council representative for the College Area.
- City of San Diego Web Site: www.sandiego.gov
- "Just Call" – (619) 615-6111. This is an automated citizen information system designed to provide you with pre-recorded answers to frequently asked questions about the City of San Diego services and programs, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You can also call the new telephone information service for personal assistance in contacting governmental and community agencies in San Diego County by simply dialing 211.
- Mid-City Police Substation – Call (619) 516-3000 for any issues or concerns regarding law enforcement in the Mid-City Division, which includes the College Area.
- City of San Diego Neighborhood Code Compliance Department. Call (619) 236-5500 to report apparent violations of zoning, housing, noise and litter codes. Anonymous complaints are not accepted; however, names, addresses and phone numbers are kept confidential.
- Neighborhood Nuisance Program – City of San Diego Neighborhood Code Compliance Department – Phone: (619) 533-6123. This program helps neighbors attack nuisances in their neighborhood by taking legal action against the property owner. Nuisances can include an unsightly property, excessive noise, gang activity, prostitution, drug activity, trespassing, CC&R violations, and other unreasonable activity. The process involves many steps including: collection of evidence, documentation of its effects, notification and negotiation with the troublesome property owner, and demand that the nuisance be stopped. If the owner fails to adequately control the nuisance, then the neighbors can sue the property owner in Small Claims Court where the judge has the power to order resolution and/or award significant monetary damages (up to \$5,000 per plaintiff) against the property owner.

County of San Diego

- The College Area is in District Four. Phone: (619) 531-5544. Ask for the community representative.
- County of San Diego Web Site: www.co.san-diego.ca.us

Mid-City Community Court

- For certain misdemeanor quality-of-life crimes such as noise violations, offenders can avoid a criminal record by agreeing to have their case handled by the Mid-City Community Court. If they agree to participate, offenders are sanctioned by the Community Court Sanctioning Panel, which is composed of a deputy city attorney, case manager and two trained community members. Offenders are ordered to perform community service, attend rehabilitative and educational programs, and pay fines and administrative fees. If offenders comply and remain law-abiding for one year, they avoid having charges filed against them. For more information, contact the Mid-City Community Court Coordinator in the office of the City Attorney, Neighborhood Prosecution Unit. Phone: (619) 533-5500.



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